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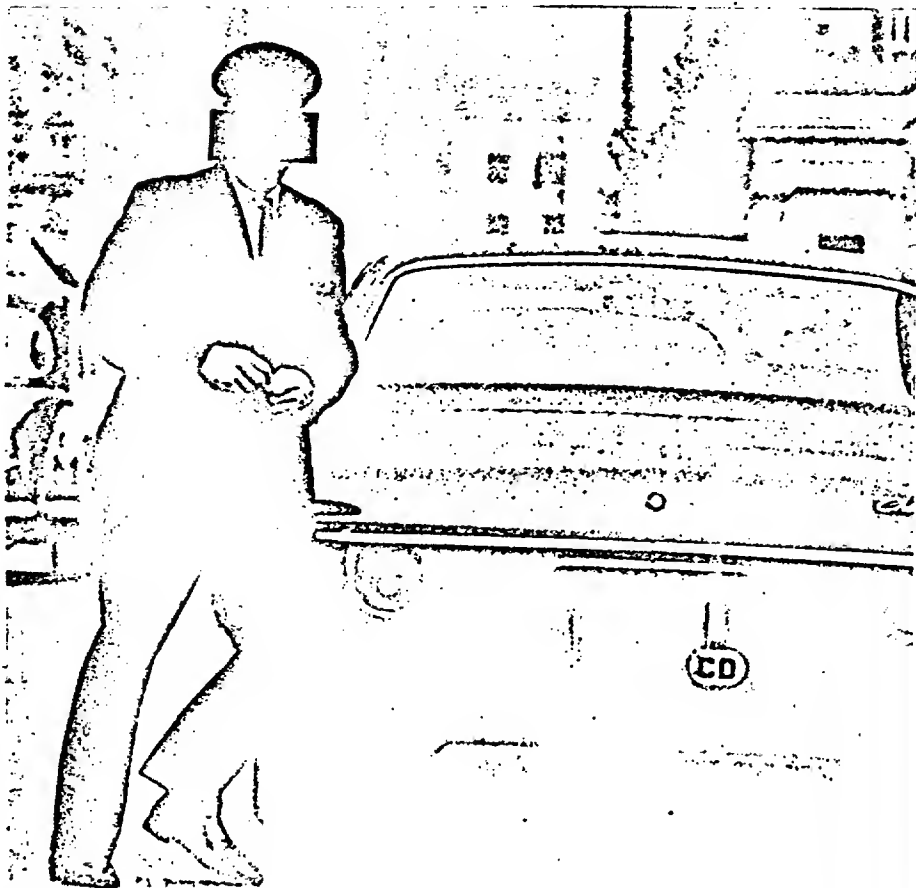
## Notes on People

Herbert Itkin, the informer who gathered evidence that helped convict several organized crime and political figures in New York while working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has been named by a former British Secret Service official as a toiler in the vineyards of the Central Intelligence Agency as well. In The Daily Telegraph of London, E. H. Cookridge said that Itkin, known under the code name "Portio," was sent to London by the C.I.A. in 1966, following the escape from a British prison of George Blake, a Soviet spy. Itkin was said to be part of a crack C.I.A. team whose mission was to determine just how serious a breach in British security the escape of Blake represented, according to Mr. Cookridge.

Phillip C. Habib, Ambassador to South Korea, left Seoul for Washington, where he will undergo medical observation and treatment at Walter Reed Hospital for what is believed to be anigina pectoris. Mr. Habib, who was the second-ranking negotiator at the Paris peace talks before he was sent to Seoul, was admitted to the U. S. Eighth Army Hospital in Seoul on Feb. 9, suffering from chest pains.

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STATINTL



## THE BIGGEST SECRET SERVICE IN THE WORLD

Starting an exclusive report on the CIA, its power

### INSIDE



**The Biggest Secret Service in the World.**  
**An analysis of the work of the Central Intelligence Agency begins on page 10.**

The compiler of this three-part report is E. H. Cookridge (left), who is the author of 16 books on espionage. Recruited into the British Secret Service on graduating from the University of Vienna in 1934, he has spent his time ever since in intelligence work, or writing about it. "I am in the position of the dumb blonde in Hollywood films. Once you are it you cannot stop. I am tired of writing about spies." But his network of contacts built up over the years is unique; and ensures that he will be

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# British Secret Service forgers help the Tories

By TOM POLEY

The stir created by the British government's charges of Soviet "espionage" in Britain has brought British intelligence into the world's headlines once more after a long absence. Britain does maintain a large and powerful intelligence apparatus, both at home in Britain and abroad, and one which works in close co-ordination with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

At one time, in fact, the CIA depended upon British intelligence for most of its work connected with former British colonies which had become independent, such as Iraq, Jordan and Egypt in the Middle East, and African countries like Zambia and Nigeria.

"Psychological warfare" and propaganda, which the British brought to a high peak of efficiency under such experts as Richard Crossman, head of the Psychological Warfare Executive (PWE) in World War II and later chief editor of the New Statesman magazine, has long been recognized as a British specialty.

So it is no accident that the British and British organizations in the "Cold War" period are generally spotlighted as being behind a whole series of faked "Soviet memoirs," mysterious rumors about the USSR and Soviet personalities, alarmist reports about "menacing Soviet troop movements," and even faked "Soviet booklets" such as one issued recently containing violent attacks on Islam distributed in Ceylon, Pakistan and Egypt.

The most notorious fakery carried on by British intelligence was the "Zinoviev letter" of 1924, which cost the Labor Party that year's elections, brought the Tories back to power, and disrupted attempts to ratify the newly-negotiated Anglo-Soviet treaty. The letter was supposed to have come from Grigory Zinoviev, then head of the Communist International, and urged a campaign of terrorism and sabotage in Britain working with the "friendly" Labor Party. Later it was shown that the letter was a forgery, written by a White Russian emigre in Berlin, and that four separate divisions of British intelligence had actually identified it as a forgery. Nonetheless, someone in British intelligence passed it on to the Tories as genuine, and the damage was done.

Who the "someone" was has never been determined, but it could only have been someone in the top circle of British intelligence, which still today is a preserve of extreme rightist Tories who tend to be fanatical anti-Communists as well. From 1924 down to the present, there have been a steady stream of such fakes and forgeries from British intelligence, nearly all of them strengthening the hand of the far right in British politics.

This situation has never been cleaned up, because the structure and functioning of British intelligence is treated as a sacred preserve, not to be mentioned in public. The average British subject did not learn anything about M.I. 5, the British equivalent of the FBI, until a train of scandals brought some facts about it out into the open in the 1930s.

M.I. 5, technically, the British Security Service, is responsible for all domestic security and counter-espionage; its Director-General reports to the Home Secretary (who in other countries would be called the Interior Minister). The curious thing about M.I. 5 is that in reality it is responsible to no one; is not part of the British government at all, and is not mentioned in any British law or regulation.

The implications of this set-up are astounding: there can be no Parliamentary "watchdog" committee over M.I. 5, because M.I. 5 does not legally exist; it is — in every sense of the word — beyond the law. As Lord Denning put it in his official 1933 report on the Profumo scandal: "The Security Service (M.I. 5) in this country is not established by Statute nor is it recognized by Common Law. Even the Official Secrets Acts do not acknowledge its existence."

So, while the head of M.I. 5 reports to the Home Secretary, M.I. 5 is not part of the Home Office;

which is like saying the head of the FBI reports to the Attorney-General, but the FBI is not part of the Justice Department or even of the U.S. government, which does not acknowledge that it exists.

M.I. 6, the British Secret Service, is "Britain's 'spy' agency engaged in activities outside Britain itself. The head of M.I. 6 is responsible to the Foreign Secretary (presently, Sir Alec Douglas-Home), the equivalent of the U.S. Secretary of State. (There is a State Dept. intelligence service, the Bureau of Intelligence and Research, but M.I. 6 is a combination of this with the functions of the CIA): M.I. 6 functions under the same kind of secrecy as M.I. 5.

Co-ordination of intelligence work, including the work of the comparatively open Military Intelligence Service, is done by the Joint Intelligence Committee at the British Foreign Office. It may seem extraordinary that the Foreign Office, Britain's "State Department," should be the chief intelligence center in Britain's government. But it is not so surprising when the extent of the former British Empire is considered; and it should be remembered that British colonies were assigned to M.I. 5, the "FBI" service, because they were considered "domestic" and not "foreign."

The total amount of funds available to Sir Alec and his colleagues in intelligence is not large; informed estimates place it at around \$50 million a year, compared to \$4 billion for the CIA. But British intelligence chiefs, being outside the law, can spend it on anything they please, including forged evidence of "espionage."

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A CIA

Post in

England?

By CHAPMAN PINCHER

LONDON — Searching questions about a huge "Radio-Communications" establishment built with American money at Orford Ness on the Suffolk Coast are being asked by Labor members of Parliament.

They suspect that it is really a giant station of U. S. intelligence. The government claims the station is being operated by the Royal Air Force for radio research, but the MPs believe that this is a cover story.

They are confident that it is being operated mainly by the U. S. National Security Agency, which specializes in electronic eavesdropping on behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency and the U. S. Defense Dept.

The Orford Ness station — a complex of 189 radio masts on a 700 acre site — can cover the whole of Russia and all other Iron Curtain countries.

Missile Launchings

The extremely advanced equipment, which is American, is believed capable of detecting details about missile launchings, including experimental firings.

The station also is understood to be concerned with the interception of certain kinds of secret information passing between military installations behind the Iron Curtain.

So the MPs fear it is yet another possible target for Soviet attack on Britain.

British security authorities are doing all they can to prevent any questions being asked in Parliament.

And they are certain to be helped by former Prime Minister Wilson and other Labor leaders, for the deal under which the Orford Ness station was set up by the U. S. was made while Labor was in office four years ago.

\$50 Million

The station is officially said to have cost over \$50 million. But the total cost, most of it footed by the U. S. government, is believed to be more than double this sum.

The MPs' suspicions were aroused by publicity organized by the Defense Ministry two weeks ago to allay local concern about the station. Fishermen were told that they might experience mild electric shocks when the station carries out full-scale "radio-communication experiments" in a few months' time.

LONDON EXPRESS

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## Jury told of spy agency story in 'plot' case

From Our Correspondent  
Leeds, April 23

Mr. Wilfred Thompson, aged 57, a businessman, said at Leeds Assizes today that he was told that the Central Intelligence Agency, the American secret service, wanted to buy his bungalow home to use as a headquarters. In return he was to receive a farm in Wales.

He said that when he went to see the farm at Upper Colwyn Bay an old lady told him it was not being sold. He returned to Yorkshire and found a "For Sale" notice in the garden.

Mr. Thompson, of Barnsley Road, Doncaster, is the alleged victim of a plot said to have bled him of a £150,000 personal fortune. The jury heard he now worked as a labourer.

Three Doncaster men are accused of fraud. They are Ronald Rainey, aged 47, of Zetland Road; Peter Heyes, aged 35, company director, of Bawtry Road; and Kenneth Taylor, aged 35, motor dealer, of Balmoral Road.

Mr. Rainey has admitted two charges, one of forgery and one of false pretences. He has denied 15 other charges of forgery, conspiracy to defraud, obtaining by deception and fraudulent conversion. Mr. Heyes denies five charges and Mr. Taylor two charges.

Mr. Thompson told the jury today of signing a document in a barber's shop which gave Mr. Rainey power of attorney to sell a house. Mr. Thompson said: "Rainey told me that the C.I.A. wanted to buy my home. He said they would make it into a headquarters. I did not want my home sold to anyone."

In cross-examination by Mr. Humphrey Potts, Q.C., for the defence of Mr. Rainey, Mr. Thompson said he had had to put so much money into the consortium that his only hope of getting money back was to put in more.

Mr. Potts: A man of experience would not be hoodwinked by talk of a consortium with men in it like Harold Wilson and Quintin Hogg?

Mr. Thompson:—I have been, sir.

Mr. Potts:—You want to be thought a rather important person?

Mr. Thompson:—No, sir.  
The trial was adjourned